

TOWN OF BOW

MESSAGE #2 FROM THE TOWN MANAGER - COVID 19

April 3, 2020

On April 1, 2020, Governor Sununu issued Emergency Order #23 - Temporary modification of municipal and local government statutory requirements

The purpose of this communication is to give some highlights and context as to what it means to the Town Office operations of Bow. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list.

Item 1. The Board of Selectmen are permitted to non-contemporaneously sign all documents necessary for the continued operations of local government and it allows for electronic approvals of such.

Response on potential impacts: This allows the Board of Selectmen to continue to act on and sign documents in a timely fashion. If you have any questions, please contact Town Manager David Stack at (603) 223-3910.

Item 2. It provides relief for statutory requirements to meet. This directly impacts the Planning Board which is required by law to meet at least once a month. During this time, that requirement is waived.

<u>Response on potential impacts:</u> Staff will continue to make every effort to communicate ahead of time with applicants to help them through the processes they need to follow; boards will continue meet, if possible, virtually to ensure the important business of the Town and applicants is being carried out. If you have any questions, please contact Community Development Director Matt Taylor at (603) 223-3970.

Item 4. The Town can over-expend the operating budget due to a need for emergency spending for COVID-19. The unreserved fund balance can be tapped into after permission is given by the State.

Response on potential impacts: The current budget for the Town of Bow, which ends June 30, 2020, is in good shape. We do not anticipate having to invoke any provision to overspend the budget.

Item 5. Relief is provided from statutory deadlines to act on items from land use boards, code inspections, and meeting minute availability.

<u>Response on potential impacts to you:</u> Same response as Item 2. If you have any questions, please Community Development Director Matt Taylor at (603) 223-3970.

Item 7. Marriage license extensions.

Response on potential impacts: Any Marriage Licenses that have already been issued are now valid for 60 days after the declared State of Emergency has ended. We are not currently issuing any new marriage licenses. We are waiting for a response from the NH Director of Vital Records as to whether we can process Marriage Licenses by mail or electronically. If you have any questions, please contact Town Clerk/Tax Collector Mridula Naik at 603-223-3980

Item 9. All operations can be moved to phone, online and by appointment.

Response on potential impacts: We are already in a hybrid office in which the Town Manager's Office, Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office, Community Development Office and the Department of Public Works administrative Office are being minimally staffed and instead employees are servicing your needs mostly remote, online and by phone. We will continue to support your needs in a timely fashion regardless of whether we are in the office or not.

AS YOU ENJOY YOUR WEEKEND ACTIVITIES, REMEMBER....

OBSERVE RECOMMENDED SOCIAL DISTANCING - STAY 6 FEET APART.

GOVERNOR SUNUNU'S EMERGENCY ORDER PROHIBITING PUBLIC GATHERINGS OF MORE THAN 10 PEOPLE IN NUMBER.

You can all be proud of your Town of Bow first responders and Town employees. We are operating on all cylinders and we are well prepared to handle what is coming. **#bowstrong**

Take care,

David Stack Town Manager